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# INAUGURAL MESSAGE

AND FIRST

MESSAGE TO THE LEGISLATURE,

OF

# ELISHA P. FERRY

FIRST

GOVERNOR OF WASHINGTON.

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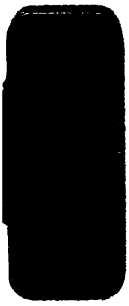
1889.



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# INAUGURAL MESSAGE

AND

FIRST MESSAGE TO THE LEGISLATURE

OF

# ELISHA P. FERRY,

FIRST

GOVERNOR OF WASHINGTON.

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NOVEMBER, 1889.

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OLYMPIA, WASH.:
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1890.

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# INAUGURAL MESSAGE.

*Fellow Citizens of the State of Washington:*

The eleventh day of November, 1889, will ever be a memorable epoch in our history. It will be known and designated as "Admission Day." Its anniversary will be celebrated, and it may very properly be placed among our legal holidays. On that day the Territory of Washington, after an existence of more than thirty-six years, ceased to be, and in its place the State of Washington, the forty-second star in the National constellation, was called into being. Our minority and our deprivation of the most cherished and important rights and privileges of American citizens continued longer than we desired or was necessary. Many of those around me have looked forward to Statehood through years added to years, until they almost despaired of the realization of their hopes. To those whose residence within our commonwealth has extended only through a short period, the inauguration of the first State Government may not appear to be of great importance. But to those whose hair has grown white beneath this sky; to those who, in early days, crossed a continent by long and weary marches; to those who planted the standard of civilization and christianity within its borders; to those, the ever-to-be-remembered

pioneers, it is an event of transcendent interest—to those it is the consummation of hopes long deferred, yet ever renewed. It is the accomplishment of a result for which they have waited with anxious solicitude, and which they now welcome with joy and satisfaction.

The inauguration of the State Government, which occurs to-day, is also a most important event in the history of the commonwealth. It marks the end of one form of Government, and the beginning of another. So plain is the significance of the present hour, and so evident is its import, that those present, young and old alike, feel the weight of the great event and will, in future years, proudly refer to the fact that they saw the wheels of Government of the State of Washington put in motion for the first time, and that they marked the moment when the last act was performed by which the Territory of Washington passed into history, and the State of Washington entered upon its active Governmental career.

The Territory of Washington was established March 2, 1853. Its boundaries then were the British Possessions on the north, the summit of the Rocky mountains on the east, the Columbia river and the forty-sixth parallel of north latitude on the south, and the Pacific ocean on the west. It was then almost an empire in extent. Those boundaries remained until the formation of the Territory of Idaho, on March 3, 1863, when our eastern boundary was changed to the one hundred and seventeenth meridian, where it now remains.

It is impossible for me, at this time, to give even a synopsis of the events which have occurred during our Territorial life. The history of the Territory remains to be written. To that we must look for an account of the dangers and hardships encountered by the early settlers—of the political events which transpired during the Territorial period, and of the gradual change of a wilderness inhabited by savages into a commonwealth possessing all the advantages of the highest civilization.

The years which have passed, under the Territorial Government, have been profitably employed. Washington has, during all this time, been growing stronger financially, commercially and politically. It has gained an enviable reputation. Its resources have been exhibited and its capabilities have been made known. Its ability to assume the responsibilities and bear the burdens of Statehood is far greater now than at any time in the past. Already it outranks several other States of the Union in poputlaion and wealth, and is pressing forward with giant strides to that high position which it is destined to occupy. Our commonwealth enters upon Statehood under circumstances that are most favorable—under auspices which assure a prosperous future. Every branch of business is flourishing. For several years the tide of fortune has been with our citizens, and they have taken the treasure which has floated upon its bosom.

The attention of the world has been attracted by our commercial facilities, by our agricultural and manufacturing advantages, by our resources of timber, coal and iron and the precious metals, and by our phenomenally

pleasant climate. Capital and population are flowing in upon us in an apparently endless stream. Commerce, manufacturing and agriculture, the three great elements of a Nation's prosperity, are on a firm basis, and the possibilities of their future development are boundless.

Young and comparatively undeveloped as it is, Washington enters the Union the peer of any State, and the superior of many. Only a few years of this century remain, but before they are gone Washington will be universally recognized as one of the greatest of the American States.

It attains its majority and enters the Union well endowed. Owing to the generosity of its sister States, through their Representatives in Congress, it has received more than half a million acres of land, of the present value of more than five millions of dollars, in addition to the magnificent grant for the support of common schools. Washington is, therefore, wealthy, not only in its resources and capabilities, but in fact. The present, indeed, gives promise of a glorious future, and the past, too, adds its evidence to strengthen our hopes. The recent progress of Washington has been truly marvelous. Less than a decade since, its population was 75,000; now it is more than 300,000. The assessed value of its property was then $22,000,000; now it is $125,000,000. Then only a few miles of railroad had been constructed within its borders; now railroads penetrate to nearly every part of the State, and one transcontinental road extends from its eastern to almost its western boundary. Then its largest city had less than 5,000 inhabitants,

now it contains three cities, each of which has more than 25,000. Truly the recent past gives promise of a future which will realize our most sanguine anticipations. The State is now, practically, connected with the south and east by three transcontinental railroads, and there is every reason for hope that this number will be increased, perhaps doubled, within a few years. With this increase will come manifest advantages. Freight and passenger rates between Washington and the east will be materially reduced. New markets for our products will thus be opened, and the price of necessities of eastern manufacture will be reduced. With this increase of commercial advantages will come an increase in manufactures and an increased remuneration for industry in the line of agriculture, which always follows the growth of manufactures. Truly the prospect is encouraging. It is such that the citizen of Washington can look upon his State with pride and anticipation which cannot be too great.

But a forecast of the future of Washington, which did not take into consideration the possibilities of its foreign commerce, would be superficial and very incomplete. Already this is a source of revenue to its citizens, the importance of which cannot be over-estimated. Exports from Puget Sound are now carried to ports of all continents—North America, South America, Asia, Africa, Europe and Australia, and to many of the islands of the Pacific. The trade of Europe with the Orient, a trade which has enriched every country that has engaged in it, is now insignificant in comparison with what it will become in the near future. The uncounted millions of

China and North Asia are beginning to awaken to the advantages of our civilization. Year by year they accept more and more of the manufactured products of Europe and America. Wheat is supplanting rice as a staple article of food. The Occident is looking to the Orient for its supplies. Here will spring up a trade which will vastly outmeasure the old Oriental trade, and it is fair to suppose that a reasonable proportion of this mighty stream of commerce will flow through Puget Sound, which is nearer by many thousand miles to the commercial cities of Asia than are the competing ports of Europe. The manufactured products of Eastern America and the products of our own State will be exchanged here for the products of Asia. As a consequence of this trade there will arise upon the waters of Puget Sound several commercial cities, one, at least, of which will rank with the great commercial cities of the world.

The eastern portion of our State is unrivalled in the production of all the cereals and the fruits indigenous to the temperate zones, and its productive capacity is almost incalculable.

Are not these considerations sufficient to justify the citizens of Washington in their firmly rooted belief that their State will ultimately be one of the foremost in the Union?

The substitution of a State Government for that of the Territorial imposes upon the citizens of Washington more solemn duties and graver responsibilities than those to which they have been accustomed. Hitherto the power

of our Legislature to enact laws has been limited and restricted by the organic act and the amendments thereto, and by the various laws that have been passed by Congress relating to the Territories. Further than this, Congress reserved the right to annul any law passed by the Territorial Legislature which seemed to be unwise and injudicious. We had no voice in the selecting of our Executive and Judicial officers, and none in directing the course of the National Government. Hereafter all will be changed. The powers of our Legislature will be limited only by the Constitution of the United States and that of the State of Washington. Our citizens will be on an equality with those of any other State of the Union, and their wishes will have due weight in determining the policy of the National Government. We should, therefore, exercise a conscientious endeavor to bear well these new responsibilities, and discharge faithfully the new duties which are ours, and prove ourselves worthy of the rights which we have secured. Let greater wisdom accompany the greater power that we now possess. Let us discharge the additional duties devolving upon us in a manner that will redound to our credit, advance the welfare and prosperity of our State, and add importance and strength to the National Union.

The Constitution which has been adopted by our people and on which our State Government must rest, although not universally approved, appears to be satisfactory to a great majority of our fellow citizens. No one should have anticipated a perfect Constitution. An instrument of that character never has been, and never will

be, devised. If the Constitution is as perfect as could reasonably be expected, taking into consideration existing conflicting interests, and radical differences of opinion that are entertained upon many important governmental and other questions, then all should be content, submit to the will of the majority, and at least be willing to give to it a fair trial. Should, however, experience teach that any of its provisions are unwise, or others required, or that additional limitations upon Legislative power are necessary, then let amendments be prepared in the manner provided. There are indications that this course is not satisfactory to all of our fellow citizens. Already amendments are suggested and are being agitated. This is not good policy. No attempt to change the Constitution should be made until time and experience shall demonstrate that changes are advisable, and that suggested amendments would improve it and render it more satisfactory than it now is. Changes should not be countenanced or approved by anyone who believes that the fundamental law should be reasonably permanent, and who is willing that it be submitted to the test of experience.

In addition to this, the State Constitution is only a limitation upon Legislative power, differing in this respect from the Constitution of the United States, which is a grant of power. It is, therefore, to be presumed that in addition to the specified subjects in the Constitution upon which the Legislature is required to take action, it will at its first session enact such laws as will remedy what, to many, may appear to be defects in that instrument.

Within the past few months several of the largest cities of our commonwealth have suffered from disastrous conflagrations. In a few hours property of the value of many millions of dollars—the accumulation of years—the proceeds of lives of toil—was swept out of existence. To individuals, in many instances, these fires occasioned serious losses, and may be regarded as calamities, but the cities will sustain no permanent injury. They are being rapidly rebuilt, better and more substantial than before. The check to business was only temporary, and the population of each has increased without interruption. The undaunted courage, the indefatigable enterprise and the persevering energy displayed by the people of those cities under what were considered overwhelming misfortunes, have excited admiration and astonishment throughout the continent, and wherever the facts have become known. These characteristics have been fully recognized and appreciated by foreign capitalists, who offered loans to those cities, to enable them to rebuild, at less rates of interest than those formerly demanded. In this respect, as well as in others, these conflagrations have already shown themselves to be beneficial rather than calamitous. Great disasters bring out the true character of a people.

With resources superior to those of any other equal area, with a population as enterprising as it is courageous, with a climate which commends itself to all who experience it, occupying a position at the gateway of the Oriental and Occidental commerce of the future, there is no reason why the State of Washington should not, in

the near future, take rank among the most prominent States of the Union, nor why our people should not enjoy the priceless blessings of prosperity, health and happiness.

Having been elected by my fellow citizens to the office of Governor of the State of Washington, I am about to take the prescribed oath and enter upon the discharge of my duties. I fully appreciate the dignity and honor of the position, and am profoundly grateful to my fellow citizens for the confidence which they have reposed in me. At the same time, I deeply realize the responsibility that I assume, and the difficulties and embarrassments with which I may be surrounded. Matters will necessarily come before me for action about which honest differences of opinion will be entertained by my fellow citizens. I cannot hope that my course will be satisfactory to all; but I can sincerely assure you that at all times and under all circumstances my highest and best efforts will be directed to the promotion of the various interests of the people of the State of Washington.

November 18, 1889. ELISHA P. FERRY.

# FIRST MESSAGE TO THE LEGISLATURE.

*Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:*

The convening of the first Legislature of the State of Washington is a most important event in our history, and as the representative of the Executive Department, I extend to you my sincere congratulations. The great honor which has been conferred upon you by our fellow citizens is a marked one, which cannot fail to awaken in you pardonable feelings of pride and gratification. Other Legislatures of Washington there will be, but this is the first. You are the pioneers of State legislation. To you has been assigned the work of laying the foundation upon which the law-makers of the future will build; of so establishing the institutions of the State that they will be in keeping with the modest present, yet capable of expansion to meet the requirements of the future; and you have the great privilege of bearing a most important part in the founding of the State Government.

While the position which you occupy is one of peculiar honor, the duties pertaining to it are also of peculiar responsibility. The powers possessed by you are limited only by the Constitution of the United States and of this State. It is your province to make precedents, not to follow

them; to mark the way, that others may walk in the path which you have made. Your position is unparalleled, so far as this commonwealth is concerned. The situation of the State of Washington is like that of a young man entering upon the serious business of life. In his mind are the precepts which he has learned in childhood and in youth. Before and about him are the examples of others who have entered upon their active career under similar circumstances to those in which he is placed. Behind him are incomplete and unsatisfactory experiences which are totally inadequate to serve as guides for future acts, or to furnish rules for future conduct. The commonwealth of Washington has arrived at manhood. Its childhood, its youth, are passed. It has to guide it the example of other States, which have been similarly situated, together with the incomplete experiences of its own period of Territorial existence. It is your high prerogative and imperative duty to start it aright in the larger life upon which it is now entering.

## CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS.

The Constitution of the State of Washington designates certain legislation, which should be enacted. Although this duty is not directly imposed upon you, yet it is evident that it was intended that the subjects referred to should be considered by the first Legislature. Of the matters to which your attention is thus pointedly directed, I will refer briefly in the order in which they are presented in the Constitution:

### CONVICT LABOR.

After the first day of January next, the labor of convicts in the Penitentiary cannot be let out to any person or corporation, and you are required to provide for the working of convicts for the benefit of the State. Early legislation upon this subject is necessary in order that the system of labor adopted by you may go into operation on the first day of the coming year, which is clearly intended by the Constitution.

### BUREAU OF STATISTICS, AGRICULTURE AND IMMIGRATION.

The Constitution provides (Article II, Section 34) that "there shall be established in the office of the Secretary of State a Bureau of Statistics, Agriculture and Immigration, under such regulations as the Legislature may provide." It becomes your duty, therefore, to establish such a bureau, and to prescribe the duties and to provide for the compensation of such officers as may become necessary for its successful operation. The name given to the proposed bureau by the Constitution sufficiently indicates its general scope, and it is your duty to make such provision as in your judgment will best attain the end which is obviously designed.

### PROTECTION OF MINERS AND OTHERS.

You are also directed (Article II, Section 35) to pass necessary laws for the protection of persons working in mines, factories and other employments dangerous to life or deleterious to health, and to "fix pains and penalties

for the enforcement of the same." There is a mining law now in force which has given general satisfaction to those most interested in its operation. This law, modified in some particulars and so extended in scope as to apply to persons employed in other lines of industry, as well as to miners, would doubtless meet the requirements of the Constitution and give protection to those for whom it is designed. This is a subject to which I would earnestly direct your attention. The citizen has a right to look to the State for the fullest possible protection against bodily injury in his efforts to secure a livelihood, no less than against injury which is designed and malicious. The enactment of a law which will carry out the provisions of this section to their fullest extent would be as acceptable to the people of the State as it would be beneficial to those who are engaged in dangerous employments.

### FREE PASSES.

I direct your attention to Section 39 of Article II, which is as follows:

"It shall not be lawful for any person holding office in this State to accept or use a pass, or to purchase transportation from any railroad or other corporation, other than as the same may be purchased by the general public, and the Legislature shall pass laws to enforce this provision."

You will observe that this section specifically directs you to enact a law for the accomplishment of a stated purpose. In connection with the subject I also direct your attention to Section 20, Article XII, and suggest the enactment of a law to carry those sections into effect.

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS.

It will be necessary for you to prescribe the duties and fix the compensation of the Commissioner of Public Lands. This office is created by the Constitution; the incumbent has been elected by the people; but no powers have been conferred upon him or duties prescribed. It is to be inferred, from the title given to this officer, that it was designed that he should have the management and control of all lands donated by the General Government to the State, but the powers and duties to be exercised and discharged by him are subjects over which you have full control. It is needless for me to say that until there is legislation, this officer, although elected and qualified, can perform no duties.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

You are required to "determine the number of Justices of the Peace to be elected in corporate cities and towns, and in precincts," and to prescribe their powers, duties and jurisdiction.

ELECTIONS.

In the matter of elections the Constitution confers upon you large powers, prescribing, for the most part, however, in what direction they shall be used. You are instructed to provide a method of voting which will secure to every elector absolute secrecy in preparing and depositing his ballot. In devising such a method you are allowed the largest freedom of action; the only limitation being the provision that elections shall be by ballot. It

is not necessary nor do I desire to indicate a choice between any of the methods for securing a secret ballot, which may be urged upon you. In this matter you should exercise the utmost care, for upon the preservation of the purity of the ballot depends, in a great measure, the success of our institutions; and without absolute secrecy we cannot hope to obtain even a reasonable degree of purity in our elections. You are also directed to enact a registration law to be enforced in cities and towns having a population of more than five hundred. In addition to this, you may, in your discretion, provide for the registration of every elector in the State as a prerequisite to the right to vote. You may adopt one system of registration in cities and towns having a population of more than five hundred, and another applicable to all other portions of the State. This should receive your careful attention. The safeguards to be thrown around the ballot-box to prevent fraud and corruption cannot be too many nor too stringent.

### REVENUE AND TAXATION.

I desire to call your attention to the article of the Constitution relating to revenue and taxation. The matter of raising revenue to defray the expenses of the State Government, to insure the maintenance of its Institutions and to pay the principal and interest of any debt that now exists, or that may hereafter be incurred, is left in your hands. There are, however, several important restrictions, of which you should not lose sight. Taxation must be annual, and the rate of assessment and taxation

of all property in the State shall be uniform and equal. The property of the United States, and of the State, counties, school districts and municipal corporations shall be exempt from taxation by general law. You also have the right to exempt other property from taxation by general laws; *Provided, however*, That the property of corporations shall be taxed equally with, and similarly to, the property of individuals. You are also directed to provide for the annual publication of a statement of the receipts and disbursements of public moneys. By the wise use of the powers granted to you in this article depends, in a great measure, the success or failure of the State Government. The power of taxation is one of the most important delegated by the people to their representatives. It is not to be assumed that the laws which you enact relative to taxation will not be changed by succeeding Legislatures, but it is most important that we start aright. If no mistakes are made now, the probability of mistakes in the future are not to be presumed. I urge you, therefore, not only in behalf of those who are now residents of the State, and who are deeply interested in this matter, but in behalf of those who will hereafter become citizens, to bestow upon this subject your best and most thoughtful consideration.

### EDUCATION.

It will also become your duty, under the Constitution, to provide for a general and uniform system of popular education, to include Common Schools, and such High Schools, Normal Schools and Technical Schools as may

be established. In the performance of this duty you should strive for nothing short of perfection. Upon public education depends the success of free Governments. Education brings out all that is noblest and best in man. Without it his best efforts are misdirected and rendered of no value. Upon education depend intelligence, conservatism and respect for law, without which successful government by the people is impossible. The system of education which you devise for this State cannot be too broad nor too liberal, and the standard which you fix cannot be too high. In this connection I desire to commend to your consideration the Territorial University, which should be re-organized and its name changed to "The Washington State University." This institution should be made worthy of our commonwealth and a fit coping stone for our educational system.

### THE MILITIA.

It will be your duty to provide by law for organizing and disciplining the Militia, and for the protection and safe-keeping of the public arms. The organized Militia of the commonwealth, known as the National Guard, has made great progress during the past few years, and is now in a very creditable state of efficiency. It is provided with the latest arms and with complete equipments, and, though small, will compare favorably in point of discipline and in the character of its officers and men, with the organized Militia of any State in the Union. The National Guard of Washington has, on several occasions, given abundant evidence that it can be depended

upon to maintain order in any emergency that may arise. Provision should be made to increase the Militia force proportionately to the increase in population and wealth of the State, in order that the State may always have on hand a disciplined body of men who will give confidence at any time of danger and maintain its authority at times of public disturbance.

### SOLDIERS' HOME.

The Constitution also directs you to provide, by law, for the maintenance of a Soldiers' Home for honorably discharged Union soldiers, sailors and marines, and members of the State Militia disabled in the line of duty. I recommend that the scope of this projected institution be so enlarged that its benefits may be shared by citizens of the State who have been honorably discharged after service in any of the wars of the Republic, and who have been disabled while serving the United States or the Territory of Washington in any of the Indian wars that have taken place within the borders of this State.

### COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS.

I desire to direct your attention to Sections 4, 5, 8 and 10 of Article XI of the Constitution, relating to the subject of County and Municipal Government. In accordance with these sections it will be your duty to provide a uniform system of county and township government, to provide for the election of county, district and precinct officers, and to fix the compensation, by salaries,

of county officers, and of Constables in cities having a population of five thousand or more. It will also be your duty to provide, by general laws, for the incorporation, organization and classification of cities and towns. You have the power to permit cities containing a population of twenty thousand inhabitants or more, to form charters for their own government according to the method prescribed by the Constitution. It is well known that several cities of the State have outgrown their several charters and will seek to avail themselves of this provision of the Constitution. This subject will doubtless soon be brought before you by the action of these cities.

### CORPORATIONS.

On the subject of corporations the Constitution is very explicit. Any legislation bearing upon this subject must be so framed as to meet numerous requirements and to come within numerous limitations. No subject which will come before you will be more worthy than this of careful consideration. On the other hand, you should avoid the passage of laws which will have the tendency to prevent the investment of foreign capital in the State, and discourage the inception of large enterprises. The development of the resources of our State has just begun, and any legislation which is too restrictive upon corporations will materially retard the advancement of the commonwealth. On the other hand it is your duty to enact laws which will prevent, so far as is possible, the unjust use of the great powers which are necessarily conferred upon corporations. You have, in this respect, a double duty

toward the people. You should stimulate the development of our resources by encouraging the investment of capital, whether it be that of corporations or that of individuals; but you should also enact legislation which will effectually protect the individual against every probable aggression on the part of corporations. You are specifically directed to "pass laws establishing reasonable maximum rates of charges for the transportation of passengers and freight, and to correct abuses and prevent discrimination and extortion in the rates of freight and passenger tariffs on the different railroads and other common carriers in the State, and to enforce such laws by adequate penalties." You also have power to establish a Railroad and Transportation Commission.

## REFORMATORY INSTITUTION.

There is one duty indirectly imposed upon you by the Constitution to which I desire to direct your attention. You should, without unnecessary delay, enact legislation looking to the establishment of a Reformatory Institution for Depraved and Vicious Youth. The fact that no institution of this kind exists, has been a reproach to our commonwealth. Youthful offenders must either be confined in the Penitentiary with hardened criminals, or permitted to be at large. To the former of these alternatives Judges and Juries are disinclined, and such offenders are usually dismissed with a reprimand or confined for a short period in a County Jail, no matter how serious the offense may have been. The effect of such leniency is

bad, both upon those to whom it is extended and upon their friends and companions. Further than this, there is to be found in all our large cities a class of young boys who defy parental authority and have little regard for rights of property. They are well acquainted with the Police Court and have no fear of arrest, as arrest is too frequently followed by release with no further punishment than a reprimand. It is most pernicious to permit such youth to grow to manhood in vice and ignorance without an effort to reclaim them. An institution in which such efforts would be made is imperatively needed, and the first Legislature of the new State should not adjourn without enacting necessary legislation for its establishment.

### HARBOR COMMISSION.

The duty is imposed upon you by Article XVI of the Constitution to appoint a Commission to locate and establish harbor lines in navigable waters in front of the cities in the State, and to provide, by general laws, for the leasing of the right to build wharves, docks and other structures within the harbor lines that may be established. This is a very important subject and should receive your early attention. Any legislation assertive of the rights of the State to the areas referred to in Article XVI will be also carrying out the declaration in Article XVII of the Constitution, and will facilitate an early settlement by judicial tribunals of the conflicting claims to what are designated in the Constitution as "Tide Lands."

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

Article XX provides for the organization of a State Board of Health and Bureau of Vital Statistics, with such powers as you may direct; and for the enactment of laws regulating the practice of medicine and the sale of drugs and medicines. The benefits arising from laws enacted in other States of the character here indicated have been so apparent that I need only direct your attention to the subject.

AFFAIRS OF STATE.

There will be laid before you the respective reports of the late Territorial Treasurer, Territorial Auditor, and other officers having charge of different departments under the late Territorial Government. From these you will ascertain the condition of the affairs of the State and be enabled to take such action upon financial and other kindred subjects as you may deem necessary and proper.

STATE LANDS.

The General Government welcomes us into the Union with munificent endowments of lands to be applied to educational purposes, and the establishment and maintenance of charitable, penal and reformatory institutions and for public buildings at the State Capital. In addition to sections 16 and 36, which, under certain restrictions and limitations, are granted for the support of Common Schools in the State, there are further grants, as follows: For erecting public buildings at the Capital for Legislative, Executive and Judicial purposes, 132,000

acres; for the establishment and maintenance of a Scientific School, 100,000 acres; for State Normal Schools, 100,000 acres; for State charitable, educational, penal and reformatory institutions, 200,000 acres. The lands granted for other than educational purposes can be disposed of by the Legislature in such manner as it may deem most conducive to the interests of the State, the only limitation imposed by the General Government being that they shall be held, appropriated and disposed of exclusively for the purposes mentioned. The General Government has obligated itself to pay to the State five per centum of the net proceeds of public lands lying within the State, which shall be sold by the United States subsequent to our admission as a State. This is to constitute a permanent fund, the interest of which only can be expended for the support of Common Schools. The revenue to be derived from this source will be annually augmented and will continue so long as sales of public lands in the State are made by the United States. The State will also be entitled to that portion of the seventy-two sections granted by Act of Congress July 17, 1854, for a University, which it has not received.

## CONCLUSION.

The last years of the commonwealth under Territorial Government have been years of prosperity. The population of Washington has increased at a marvelous rate and the development of its resources has gone forward without interruption. With careful legislation and with efficient and systematic efforts toward the development